

Rehabilitation of disabled Kargil soldiers

2720. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider rehabilitation of ex-soldiers who have been declared permanently disable in Kargil war; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and time frame?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Those, fit for civil jobs in Central Government Departments, are eligible on priority-I for employment against Groups 'C' and 'D' posts, for which, recruitment is made through the Directorate General of Employment and Training. Soldiers, boarded out of service, are given pensionary and other monetary benefits, as per enclosed Statement.

Statement***Rehabilitation of Disabled Kargil Soldiers***

The Armed Forces personnel, injured in the Kargil Operation and boarded out of service are granted War Injury Pension, which consists of service element and war injury element. The service element is equal to retiring/service pension, calculated on the basis of his pay on the date of invalidment and counting service up to the date, on which, he would have retired/discharged from service, in that rank in the normal course, including admissible weightage of service. The war injury element of pension is equal to reckonable emoluments, drawn at the time of invalidment for 100% disablement. For lower percentage of disablement war injury element is proportionately, reduced but it is not less than 50% of the reckonable emoluments, last drawn. Further, the aggregate of the service element and war injury element of pension, in such cases, is not to exceed the last pay drawn. In addition, they are paid gratuity, as admissible, under the rules.

These personnel, boarded out of service, have also been given following benefits from the National Defence Fund and the Army Central Welfare Fund:

1. Benefits from National Defence Fund

(i) **Ex-gratia grant** : Boarded out injured personnel with more than 75% injuries are paid ex-gratia grant amount of Rs. 6.00 lakhs, those with more than 50% out less than 75% injuries—Rs. 4.5 lakhs; and, those with less than 50% injuries—Rs. 3.00 lakhs.

(ii) **Housing grant**: Defence services personnel, invalided out of service, are paid Rs. 5.00 lakhs for acquiring a dwelling unit or for making additions/alterations/renovations of the existing unit.

(2) **Benefit from Army Central welfare fund**: Each disabled personnel is paid the Benefit, ranging from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 30,000, depending upon the level of disability. They are also entitled to the following:—

(a) Financial assistance for procurement of mobility equipment, such as, motorised tricycles, scooters and wheel chairs.

(b) Financial assistance for procurement of state of the art artificial limbs.

(c) Financial assistance for vocational training and self-employment ventures.

(d) Financial assistance for higher education of children.

(e) Educational scholarship for children up to Post Graduate level.

(f) Financial assistance for medical treatment of dependents and marriage of wards.

(g) Financial assistance for agro-based ventures, animal husbandry and dairy development projects.

(h) Annual grants to Vocational Training Centres associated with Paraplegic Rehabilitation Centres.

Inquiry into security lapses at Red Fort

2721. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted an inquiry into security lapses responsible for the shocking incident in which terrorists sneaked into the Red Fort on 22nd December, 2000 and escaped after killing three persons in the highly protected area;

(b) if so, the details of the findings thereof; and